

- Sec.  
1908. Penalties for violations.
- (a) Criminal penalties; payment for information leading to conviction.
  - (b) Civil penalties; separate violations; assessment notice; considerations affecting amount; payment for information leading to assessment of penalty.
  - (c) Abatement of civil penalties; collection by Attorney General.
  - (d) Liability in rem; district court jurisdiction.
  - (e) Ship clearance or permits; refusal or revocation; bond or other surety.
  - (f) Referrals for appropriate action by foreign country.
1909. MARPOL Protocol; proposed amendments.
- (a) Acceptance of certain amendments by the President.
  - (b) Action on certain amendments by the Secretary of State.
  - (c) Declaration of nonacceptance by the Secretary of State.
1910. Legal actions.
- (a) Persons with adversely affected interests as plaintiffs; defendants.
  - (b) Commencement conditions.
  - (c) Venue.
  - (d) Costs; attorney fees; witness fees.
  - (e) Federal intervention.
1911. Authority of Secretary under port and tanker safety program unaffected.
1912. International law.
1913. Compliance reports.
- (a) In general.
  - (b) Report on inability to comply.
  - (c) Congressional action.
1914. Coordination.
- (a) Establishment of Marine Debris Coordinating Committee.
  - (b) Membership.
  - (c) Meetings.
  - (d) Monitoring.
1915. Plastic pollution public education program.
- (a) Outreach program.
  - (b) Citizen Pollution Patrols.

### § 1901. Definitions

(a) Unless the context indicates otherwise, as used in this chapter—

(1) “Antarctica” means the area south of 60 degrees south latitude;

(2) “Antarctic Protocol” means the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, signed October 4, 1991, in Madrid, and all annexes thereto, and includes any future amendments thereto which have entered into force;

(3) “MARPOL Protocol” means the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, and includes the Convention;

(4) “Convention” means the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, including Protocols I and II and Annexes I, II, and V thereto, including any modification or amendments to the Convention, Protocols, or Annexes which have entered into force for the United States;

(5) “discharge” and “garbage” and “harmful substance” and “incident” shall have the meanings provided in the Convention;

(6) “owner” means any person holding title to, or in the absence of title, any other indicia of ownership of, a ship or terminal, but does

not include a person who, without participating in the management or operation of a ship or terminal, holds indicia of ownership primarily to protect a security interest in the ship or terminal;

(7) “operator” means—

(a) in the case of a ship, a charterer by demise or any other person, except the owner, who is responsible for the operation, manning, victualing, and supplying of the vessel, or

(b) in the case of a terminal, any person, except the owner, responsible for the operation of the terminal by agreement with the owner;

(8) “person” means an individual, firm, public or private corporation, partnership, association, State, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a State, or any interstate body;

(9) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating;

(10) “ship” means a vessel of any type whatsoever, including hydrofoils, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft whether self-propelled or not, and fixed or floating platforms;

(11) “submersible” means a submarine, or any other vessel designed to operate under water; and

(12) “terminal” means an onshore facility or an offshore structure located in the navigable waters of the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and used, or intended to be used, as a port or facility for the transfer or other handling of a harmful substance.

(b) For purposes of this chapter, the requirements of Annex V shall apply to the navigable waters of the United States, as well as to all other waters and vessels over which the United States has jurisdiction.

(c) For the purposes of this chapter, the requirements of Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol shall apply in Antarctica to all vessels over which the United States has jurisdiction.

(Pub. L. 96-478, §2, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297; Pub. L. 100-220, title II, §2101, Dec. 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 1460; Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title X, §1003(f), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1748; Pub. L. 104-227, title II, §201(a), Oct. 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 3042.)

### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 96-478, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2297, known as the “Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships”. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-227, §201(a)(1), (2), added pars. (1) and (2) and redesignated former pars. (1) to (10) as (3) to (12), respectively.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-227, §201(a)(3), added subsec. (c).

1993—Subsec. (a)(9), (10). Pub. L. 103-160 added par. (9) and redesignated former par. (9) as (10).

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-220, §2101(1), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a).